

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT [IDS

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 CFR §\$1.97, 1.98, and it is requested that the information set forth in this statement and in the listed documents be considered during the pendency of the above-identified application, and any other application relying on the filing date of the above-identified application or cross-referencing it as a related application.

- 1. This IDS should be considered, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97, as it is filed before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits.
- 2. Certain documents were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the following prior application, which are relied upon under 35 U.S.C. 120:
 - U.S. Appln. No. 09/345,475 filed June 30, 1999, now U.S. patent 6,210,432.

In re Appln. No. 09/775,677

Applicants identifies these documents by attaching hereto a fresh PTO/SB/08A listing these documents, and request that they be considered and made of record in accordance with \$1.98(d). Per 37 CFR \$1.98(d), copies of these documents need not be filed in this application.

3. In accordance with 37 CFR §\$1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this IDS should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in \$1.56 (b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant(s) reserves the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK

Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By:

Sheridan Neimark Reg. No. 20,520

624 Ninth Street, N.W., Suite 300

Washington, D.C. 20001-5303

Telephone: (202)628-5197 Facsimile: (202)737-3528 F:\,A\Awap\Solem3A\pto\IDS30May01.doc